

1. This application is in condition for allowance except for the following formal matters:

FIG. 3A should be labeled as "Prior Art".

Prosecution on the merits is closed in accordance with the practice under *Ex parte Quayle*, 25 USPQ 74, 453 O.G. 213, (Comm'r Pat. 1935).

A shortened statutory period for reply to this action is set to expire **TWO MONTHS** from the mailing date of this letter.

2. The following is an examiner's statement of reasons for allowance:

The prior art of record neither discloses nor suggests a glide head for a magnetic disk having a suspension arm and a slider, whose back is resiliently held to an end of the suspension arm through a flexure and has a load point to which a pressing force from the suspension arm is applied through a pivot disposed on the flexure; the slider comprising, on a bottom surface of the slider opposed to the back, two sliding rails protruding from the bottom surface, extending from a leading end of the slider to a trailing end of the slider, in parallel and at a distance from each other, and having, near the trailing end of the slider, a rear edge that works as a sensor for encountering a defect on a magnetic disk; a transducer for transforming a mechanical energy caused due to the defect to an electric signal mounted on the back; and the load point positioned substantially on a center line between the two sliding rails on the back; wherein each of the two sliding rails has an upstream floating surface positioned within a region from the slider leading end to the load point and a downstream floating surface

positioned within a region from the load point to the slider trailing end on a floating surface of the sliding rail so that the slider has a floating pitch angle from 140 to 380 micro-rad as set forth in claim 1.

Any comments considered necessary by applicant must be submitted no later than the payment of the issue fee and, to avoid processing delays, should preferably accompany the issue fee. Such submissions should be clearly labeled "Comments on Statement of Reasons for Allowance."

3. Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to Allen T. Cao whose telephone number is (571) 272-7569. The examiner can normally be reached on Mon - Thurs (7:30 - 6:00).

If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, ANDREA WELLINGTON can be reached on (571) 272-4483. The fax phone number for the organization where this application or proceeding is assigned is 571-273-8300.

Information regarding the status of an application may be obtained from the Patent Application Information Retrieval (PAIR) system. Status information for published applications may be obtained from either Private PAIR or Public PAIR. Status information for unpublished applications is available through Private PAIR only. For more information about the PAIR system, see <http://pair-direct.uspto.gov>. Should you have questions on access to the Private PAIR system, contact the Electronic Business Center (EBC) at 866-217-9197 (toll-free). If you would like assistance from a USPTO Customer Service Representative or access to the automated information system, call 800-786-9199 (IN USA OR CANADA) or 571-272-1000.

/Allen T Cao/
Primary Examiner, Art Unit 2627

/A. T. C./
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